

**NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JULY 1, 2009**

Newberry County Council met on Wednesday, July 1, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Courthouse Annex, 1309 College Street, Newberry, SC, for a regular scheduled meeting.

PRESENT: Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman
William D. Waldrop, Vice Chairman
John E. Caldwell, Councilman
Edgar Baker, Councilman
Leslie (Les) Hipp, Councilman
Steven C. Stockman, Councilman
Wayne Adams, County Administrator
A.J. Tothacer, County Attorney
Laurie Renwick, Clerk to Council
Debbie Cromer, Finance Director

ABSENT: Kirksey Koon, Councilman

PRESS: Cindy Pitts, Newberry Observer
Heather Hawkins, WKDK

The meeting was duly advertised as required by law.

Chairman Livingston called the meeting to order and determined a quorum present.

Chairman Livingston led the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Adoption of Consent Agenda

Mr. Baker moved to adopt Consent Agenda; second by Mr. Hipp. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Livingston shared that Councilman Koon was not in attendance this evening due to illness.

2. Additions, Deletions and Adoption of Agenda

Chairman Livingston deleted Agenda Items 7, 8, & 9 due to the cancellation of the Executive Session.

Mr. Caldwell moved to adopt the Agenda as amended; second by Mr. Stockman. Vote was unanimous.

3. **Ordinance #05-15-09: An Ordinance acting on a request to amend the Official Zoning Map established pursuant to Zoning Ordinance No.12-24-01, codified in Chapter 153 of the Newberry County Code of Ordinances, so as to rezone a six and one hundred and seven thousandths (6.107) acres real estate parcel designated as a portion of TMS Parcel No. 577-2 from Rural (R2) to Light Industrial (LI).**

Chairman Livingston declared this the Public Hearing.

Having received no comments, Chairman Livingston declared the Public Hearing closed.

Mr. Caldwell moved to approve third reading; second by Mr. Waldrop. Vote was unanimous.

4. Appointments

Chairman Livingston referred Council to a list provided to each of them of individuals recommended for appointments to the various Newberry County Boards and Commissions and asked is there were any additions to the list.

Mr. Hipp, District 5, recommended Dr. Alan Paysinger to the Newberry County Memorial Hospital Board. He stated Mr. Paysinger was in Mr. Waldrop's district and asked for his permission for Dr. Paysinger to represent District 5 on the NCMH Board.

Mr. Waldrop stated he supported and approved of this nomination for appointment.

Chairman Livingston asked Council if they were in favor of nominating George Piersol for reappointment to the Piedmont Technical Board.

Mr. Waldrop approved recommending Mr Piersol; second by Mr. Baker. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Hipp moved to approve the list of recommendations as presented along with the two additions; second by Mr. Waldrop. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman Livingston asked Mrs. Renwick to forward the media a copy of the list of approved appointments to the various boards/commission.

5. Consideration of approval of the Newberry County Accommodations Tax Committee's recommendation for disbursement of tourism and promotional related funds – Ernest Shealy, Chairman.

Mr. Shealy stated he was available to answer any questions that Council may have.

Mr. Hipp shared that as he reviewed the accommodations tax revenue, he was looking at it in terms of how we could reinvest this for the County. He felt like it was going to some

good organizations but thought we needed to look at reinvesting in tourism by locating some billboards on I-26 and placing brochures at the Welcome Centers.

Chairman Livingston shared that the Newberry County Chamber of Commerce produces brochures for promoting Newberry and asked Mr. Shealy if he would speak on that.

Mr. Shealy said the Chamber of Commerce requested a total of \$20,058.00 from both the tourism related and promotional related funds. These funds were for running the Newberry County Visitors Center, the promotion of Newberry County through brochures, and other Chamber related projects.

Mr. Hipp replied that he was not familiar with what all the Chamber does and what they funded for marketing.

Mr. Shealy stated that all of the money that the Chamber receives from Newberry County Accommodations Tax should go toward the promotion of Newberry County as outlined by the state ordinance. H said he does not have any evidence that they are not doing so.

Mr. Hipp asked Mr. Shealy if he felt we were reinvesting the right amount of money back into promoting Newberry County.

Mr. Shealy felt to the best of his knowledge, he believed we were. His understanding is that these funds are used for promotion at the Newberry County Visitors Center with brochures being placed at the state Welcome Centers as well. These funds are also used to promote local events on a state and regional level; not just countywide.

Chairman Livingston shared that the Chamber has one booklet, approximately 40 pages, and a tri-fold brochure that are located at the Visitors Center and Welcome Centers. He said \$10,000 does not purchase many brochures and shared his concerns about the high cost of billboards.

Mr. Waldrop moved to approve the Accommodations Tax Committee's recommendation; second by Mr. Stockman. Vote was unanimous.

6. Public Comments (by those who signed up at the meeting)

No comments

7. Vote for Executive Session, When Necessary

Cancelled

8. Executive Session

Cancelled

9. Necessary Action on Matters Discussed in Executive Session

Cancelled

10. Comments from County Administrator

Mr. Adams reminded Council of the “On the Move with Margaret” Program scheduled for July 13, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. He informed Council he would be vacationing with his soul mate next week and could be contacted by phone or email if needed.

11. Comments from Council Members

Mr. Baker asked Mrs. Renwick to confirm the date of the “On the Move with Margaret” Program. He received a call from Mrs. Brackett this morning and she said it was on July 6, 2009.

Mr. Waldrop wished everyone a happy Independence Day.

Mr. Livingston wished Mr. Adams an enjoyable and well deserved vacation.

12. Future Meetings

- a. County Council Meeting – July 15, 2009
- b. County Council Meeting – August 5, 2009
- c. Public Works and Planning Committee – July 13, 2009 @ 6:00 p.m.,
Courthouse Annex Conference Room
- d. Economic Development Committee – July 20, 2009 @ 6:00 p.m.,
Courthouse Annex Conference Room
- e. Personnel and Intergovernmental Relations Committee – July 27, 2009
@ 6:00 p.m., Courthouse Annex Conference Room

13. Vote to Adjourn

Mr. Waldrop moved to Adjourn; second by Mr. Baker. Vote was unanimous.

14. Adjournment

Chairman Livingston declared the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

NEWBERRY COUNTY COUNCIL

Henry H. Livingston, III, Chairman

APPROVED:

Laurie N. Renwick, Clerk to Council